

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY China

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT 1. Chinese Communist Efforts to

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Employ College Graduates

2. Increased Enrollment in Missionary Colleges

PLACE

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3. The Chinese Communist Government, which has a great need for educated personnel to run its administrative organs and various enterprises, made an effort to recruit all 1950 college graduates for such work. All students were required to register, and the government attempted to give each student a job which fitted his training. The government pays a salary of 130 catties of millet per month, from which 70 catties are deducted for food. The remaining amount is equivalent to US \$2.00. By comparison, a rickshaw coolie in Peiping earns 600 catties per month.

2. Partly because of these low salaries, many students refused to enter government service.* Some of them left the universities for their homes at the close of the semester.

Although there was apparently little compulsion for them to enter government employ, many students, probably from lack of an alternative, joined the government service; and presumably some of this group were motivated by ideological reasons.

3. There has been a sudden increase in enrollment in missionary-sponsored colleges and universities in China, and members of the merchant class are using their savings to send their children to western-oriented educational institutions in preference to government institutions. In July 1950 Ginling College in Nanking had almost no students and had serious financial problems; by mid-August the enrollment had shown a large increase. The situation at St. John's University has been the same, and Chekiang University in Hangchow has seen its enrollment increase beyond its expectations. Lingnan University in Canton had an enrollment of 1,200 during the spring term of 1950 and anticipated an enrollment of 1,000 for the fall term; actual matriculation numbered 1,400.

Comment. Chinese Communist policy toward curricula in institutions of higher learning.

* [] Comment. Most Communist Party members in China live very frugally and earn no more than they offer to the students. However, in assuming that the students are willing to make the same sacrifices as devoted Party servants, the Communists seem to have made an error in judgement.

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